

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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1. As a result of a protest of the Soviet government against the delays in the production of arms at the Zbrojovka factory at Brno, the Czechoslovak government ordered the workers in the factory to send a delegation to Prague to meet Alexander Bogomolov, the Soviet Ambassador to Czechoslovakia. This governmental decision was opposed by General Vaclav Kratochvil, who in the name of the Czechoslovak General Staff insisted on the danger of anarchy in all war factories that would result from such a concession to the workers. Kratochvil pointed out that the workers' committees at Zbrojovka refused to let into the factory the special committee of the Ministry of National Defense which came to inquire into the reasons for the delays and also the poor quality of much of the material produced.
2. In his protest Kratochvil was supported by the Soviet military mission, which is encountering enormous difficulties when it attempts to control production in Czechoslovak war factories. Kratochvil proposed to introduce the military mobilization of the workers at Zbrojovka as the only means of increasing production. This proposition was opposed by Zapotocky for fear of aggravating the existing tension, and he decided to consult Moscow. To the great astonishment of Kratochvil, the Czechoslovak General Staff and the Soviet military mission, Moscow gave permission for negotiations with the workers at Zbrojovka and confided the task to Ambassador Bogomolov.
3. Delegates from the workers of Zbrojovka entered into direct contact with Bogomolov, but this failed to produce any change in production. Zbrojovka is only working at 40 percent of its capacity.

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25 YEAR RE-REVIEW

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